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*The
Dahlia
Blue Book
for
1938*



Rocky River Dahlia Gardens
19111 STORY ROAD
ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

GREETINGS

WITH the start of another season, we send our personal greetings to the many fine friends who have helped to make 1937 a pleasant and profitable year. We have fully enjoyed your letters, and highly appreciate your favors, and, anticipate a continuance of these pleasant relations in our new location.

We greet, also, the many friends of the dahlia to whom our catalogue goes for the first time. We hope that you will join our circle of friends and use the personal service of the Rocky River Dahlia Gardens.

To all, we wish the best of all things, especially that 1938 will see your dahlia garden the finest ever.

Sincerely yours,

E. J. WIND.



A VIEW OF A CORNER OF OUR SHOW GARDEN TAKEN IN THE FALL OF 1937, AT OUR FORMER NORTH OLMSTED FARM. SOME STARTLINGLY FINE BLOOMS WERE PRODUCED IN THE GREENHOUSE SEEN IN THE BACKGROUND. MANY OF THE PLANTS IN THE GREENHOUSE REACHED TO THE ROOF, AND MAY BE SEEN UPON CLOSE INSPECTION.

NEW LOCATION

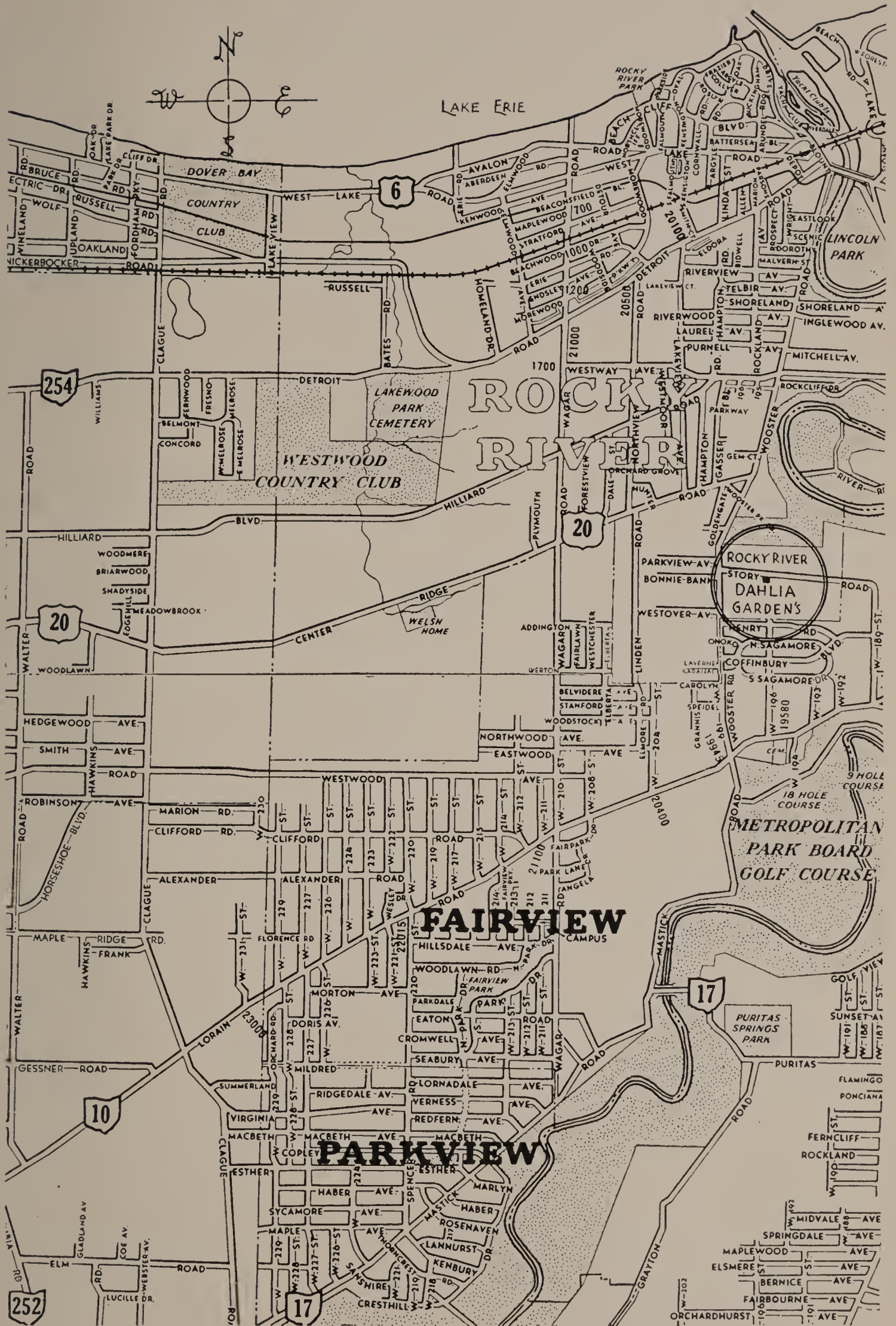
The Rocky River Dahlia Gardens are now located at 19111 Story Road, Rocky River, Ohio, having moved from the previous location on Mastick Road in North Olmsted. This new location is the farm which my father has operated as a commercial vegetable establishment for more than forty years previous to his retirement last fall. I am thoroughly familiar with conditions here, having been associated with him until four years ago.

Growing dahlias here is no new experience for me as it was here that I started growing them commercially nine years ago. From past experience I know that we can produce better clumps, roots and plants here than was possible at North Olmsted. Those of you who bought from us during the four years we were located at the latter address will know that we were able to deliver stock equal to the best. Now we can promise you something even better.

E. J. WIND.



VIEW OF OUR GREENHOUSES, WITH COLD-FRAME YARD IN THE FOREGROUND.



General Information

Please Read Carefully

ORDER EARLY

Kindly place your order as early as possible. In order to impress upon our customers the importance of our having your order at once, we are discontinuing our former policy of requiring a deposit with the order. Just send in your order. Later, if you desire, we shall be glad to make any changes to meet your final needs. Early orders will be rewarded with a nice variety as an extra. Indicate on your order when you wish to be billed for the roots or plants. Roots will be sent C. O. D. if desired, but we can not send plants in that way.

LIMITED STOCKS

The crop of roots harvested throughout the country last fall was one of the lightest in several years, due to generally unfavorable growing weather. In our fields about one-fourth of our planting was a total loss due to the excessive rains of early spring.

POSTAGE

We pay the regular postage on all retail orders. If plants are wanted "special delivery" or "special handling" include enough with remittance to cover the additional charges.

GUARANTEE

All stock shipped by the Rocky River Dahlia Gardens is guaranteed to be true to name, free from disease, and in good growing condition, upon arrival at its destination. Please report errors as soon as apparent, for replacement.

PRICES

Our prices are for good quality stock, carefully grown and handled, and are as low as is consistent with good service, liberal replacement policies, extras that please, and the supply of the variety.

EXTRAS

We include an extra root or plant with each order of \$5.00 or more.

On orders of \$10.00 to \$ 20.00 you may select 10% additional.

On orders of \$20.00 to \$ 50.00 you may select 15% additional.

On orders of \$50.00 to \$ 75.00 you may select 20% additional.

On orders of \$75.00 to \$100.00 you may select 25% additional.

Have your friends order with you to take advantage of this generous offer.

ABBREVIATIONS

Straight cactus—St. C.; Incurved cactus—In. C.; Semi cactus—S. C.; Informal decorative—I. D.; Formal decorative—F. D.

VARIETIES MARKED

Varieties marked with an asterisk (*) are of foreign origination.

SALES TAX

Residents of Ohio must include the three percent sales tax with remittance.

ANNUALS

We will again have the same high grade plants of the leading annuals and bedding plants available to local customers at reasonable prices. These are sold only at the gardens as we do not ship annuals.

TELEPHONE

Clearwater 0118-W.

New Novelties for 1938

Each year hundreds of new varieties, representing the cream of the efforts of the world's hybridizers, are placed on the market. For 1938 we have selected those which we believe are the best and will have the greatest appeal to discriminating buyers. Those who are able to do so, will be well repaid by visiting our gardens next fall to see them growing.

For those who like to grow the newest, we are offering plants of some at originators' prices.

SLEEPY HOLLOW In. C. (Morgan) A broad petaled cactus, which is different. The color is a vivid shell pink shading to white at the center. Especially beautiful under artificial light. We consider it the most distinctive variety of the year.
Plant \$5.00 net

SUNRAYS I. D. (Rushmohr) A big winner as a seedling in the East. Considered by many as the best introduction from that section. The color is buff with apricot suffusions. Large blooms on long stiff stems. **Plants \$5.00 each 3 for \$12.50**

STRAIGHTS WHITE I. D. (Rushmohr) A large white which bids fair to take a place among the best whites. The formation is very artistic, blooms average about ten inches, and the plant is vigorous. **Plant \$5.00 each 3 for \$12.50**

CARL G. DAHL I. D. (Scott) A very large, well formed flower of emberglow with golden sheen and a sweet briar reverse. Selected by a noted dahlia authority to bear the name of the man in whose honor the dahlia was named.
Plant \$5.00

GRAND MASTER F. D. (Caldwell) A fine, large, deep, formal decorative that has a proven record as a winner. We have been hearing about this one for two years and we were not disappointed when we saw it last fall. A deep bronze shading to orange at the center. Excellent stems. Strong foliage.
Plant \$2.50 net

WOLFE'S SCARLET JERSEY'S BEAUTY F. D. (Wolfe) A medium sized bright scarlet flower on fine stems. This should fill the need for a good red for florist's purposes. We had it on trial last year and found it a welcome addition to the garden. By special arrangement we are able to offer roots. **Root \$5.00 Plant \$2.50**

***MRS. C. B. CUNNINGHAM** I. D. A new novelty from Australia. Large deep flowers on top of perfect stems. One of the most striking plants in our gardens last season. The color is a blending of red and purple. **Plant \$3.00 net**

***JULIUS C. BUNGE** S. C. A new one from Holland that will be popular here. A very deep, ideally formed flower that has met with instant popularity in arrangements as well as an exhibition and garden variety. American Home achievement medal winner in this country. Color, bright rose pink, medium size.
Plant \$3.00

KATTIE K. I. D. A large, deep rose pink with white veins in the petals which lighten the flower considerably. We need good "pinks" and this one is reported to be one of the best of that color since Kathleen Norris. **Plant \$2.50 net**

ROCKLEY DICTATOR S. C. (Taylor) A big, crimson velvety red that stands well out of the robust bushes on long perfect stems. Spectacular, and considered by some to be the best red to date. **Plant \$5.00**

PRIMROSE In. C. (Bissell) An attractively formed flower of straw yellow, with rose pink reverse. Honor Roll and Award of Honor Dahlia. Excellent keeper, free and early bloomer, with fine stems. **Plant \$5.00**

General List of World's Best Dahlias

ADORABLE I. D. (Angell-Parkway) A fine dahlia of exceptional beauty. The color is a vivid pink, shading to an orange yellow glow at the center.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

ADIRONDACK SUNSET I. D. (Crackner-Parkway) One of the most spectacular dahlias of recent introduction. Its large size and brilliant color attract instant attention. The color is scarlet with golden tips and bright orange at the base.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

AIKO S. C. (Dahliadel) Large flowers of striking beauty. The color is a deep carmine with a silver reverse showing at the center and tips.

Root \$.75

***ALTMARK S. C.** An excellent variety from Germany, which attracts much attention because of its delicate beauty. Medium sized blooms of light rose with a lilac suffusion shading to white at the center.

Root \$.75

AMBASSADOR St. C. (Broomall) One of the best straight cactus on the market. Soft yellow buff shaded salmon pink.

Root \$.75



AMELIA EARHART

erect on strong stems. Very strong grower.

AMELIA EARHART S. C. (Cordes-Eastman) One of the most consistent winners in the semi cactus classes and also in classes calling for the largest bloom in the show. The color is a very pleasant shade of apricot buff with salmon tints, shading to soft yellow at the base.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

AMERICAN LEGION I. D. (Nunevillier) Well grown blooms of this one can beat them all in its class or for largest bloom in the show. Flowers are very deep color soft picric yellow.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

AMERICA'S SWEETHEART I. D. (Nunevillier) A new large yellow of pure color without shadings. Flowers held

Root \$2.00 Plant \$1.00

AMERICAN TRIUMPH In. C. (Nunevillier) This is one of the best true type cactus of American origination, and well grown blooms of it will win in any show. A bit hard to grow and a shy root-maker but well worth the effort required.

Root .75

AMERICAN PURITY S. C. (Nunevillier) An excellent white or large size. The white class has been rather weak for a number of years but with the coming of American Purity and one or two others we now have a class which ranks very near the top.

Root \$7.50 Plant \$3.75

- ANDREA ERICSON** I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Pure glistening white of fair size. Very early and free blooming. A fine sort in the garden but it does not lend itself well to exhibition because of lack of substance.
Plant .50
- ANNA BENEDICT** I. D. (Dahliadel) High quality blooms of deep rich garnet with black shadings at center. Good robust bush growth.
Root \$1.50 Plant .50
- ANN HARDING** I. D. Large blooms of great depth held on top of strong stems. Attractive autumn shades.
Root \$1.50 Plant .75
- ARCTURUS** F. D. (Peck) Scarlet suffused yellow. Fair sized flowers on strong stems. Bushes vigorous and tall.
Root .50
- ARELDA LLOYD** I. D. (Smith) A yellow with all the characteristics of Jane Cowl except color. Early in the season there is a faint trace of bronze which disappears later.
Root .75
- AZURA** I. D. (Ballay) Rosy lilac of very great diameter. Excellent stems and growing habits.
Plant \$1.50
- *BAERNE** S. C. One of the most popular of our imported varieties. Very early. Flowers well formed. Pink, with a salmon glow.
Plant .50
- *BALLEGO'S SURPRISE** S. C. (Ballego). One of the three finest whites. Nearly every bloom is a specimen. The formation is similar to Frau O. Bracht but the flower has more depth and a greater number of petals. We recommend this one very highly.
Root \$1.50 Plant .75
- *BAUER'S IDEAL** I. D. (Bauer) Attractive crimson red flowers of good size carried well above a good robust bush.
Root \$2.00 Plant \$1.00
- *BERGER'S JEWEL** In. C. (Berger) A beautiful, well formed flower of lilac pink, with lighter center.
Root \$1.00 Plant .50
- BETTY DAVIS** S. C. (Cordes) A standout in its color and class as an exhibition variety. Rosy lavender to deep lavender.
Plant .75
- BETTY COLTER** I. D. (Reed) An unusual color, coppery henna. The flowers are large and attractive on good stems.
Root .75
- BLACK KNIGHT** I. D. (Kemp) A very large variety of darkest maroon, held high above the tall bushes on straight, strong stems. It was one of the most popular with buyers, in our gardens last fall.
Root \$1.00 Plant .50
- BLUE RIVER** F. D. (Salem) A consistent winner at all shows. Large well formed flowers of a shade of deep lavender which approaches blue.
Plant .75
- BUCKEYE BRIDE** F. D. (Peck) Unsurpassed as a cut flower variety. Salmon pink of medium size. Early and free bloomer. Blooms keep well when cut.
Root .75

CALIFORNIA IDOL I. D. (Ballay) A giant clear yellow, that can win in any class, in which it may be entered, in any show. One of the finest dahlia of all times. Strong grower and the stems are exceptionally long.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

CALIFORNIA ROSE I. D. (Ballay) A bright salmon rose of large size and good keeping qualities.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

CAMEO I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Very large flower of coral pink, overlaid with a sparkling sheen. A trustworthy sort that deserves its popularity.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

CAVALCADE F. D. (Groll) A fine new addition to the "commercial types" and one which will win its share of honors on the show tables. The formation and stem are similar to Jersey's Beauty. Color deep rich rose with tones of rosy magenta.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

CENTURY OF PROGRESS I. D. (Burkhart) A vigorous tall growing purple of good size and formation.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75



CALIFORNIA IDOL

***CERISE GIANT S. C.** Cerise red streaked with silvery white. Large size and good formation.

Plant \$1.00

CHALLENGER S. C. (Chappaqua) A lively, brilliant, cardinal red with gold at the base of the petals. Its large blooms and good growing habits attract much attention.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

CHAUTAUQUA SUNSET I. D. (Wallace) One of the most popular dahlias in our gardens. A large beautifully colored flower on a perfect bush of medium height. The color is gold, orange and glowing rose. Recommended for its beauty.

Root .75

CITY OF CLEVELAND I. D. (Bissell) Unusual, russet red. Excellent all during the summer of 1937. Good growing habits and it produces many flowers.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

CLARA BARTON I. D. (Salem) Large flowers of a silvery orchid, reverse of petals deep lavender. One of the best in the lavender class.

Root .75

***CLARA CARDER I. D.** A large cyclamen pink with a flush of yellow at the base. Vigorous bushes.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

***CONSERVATRIX** In C. One of the most artistic in its class. Bright geranium red flowers of good size, and it is a consistent winner.

Plant .50

***CORALLINA** S. C. An unusually striking dahlia of stone red and gold. Petals curl and twist in a most artistic manner. Good stems.

Plant .75

***CROX DU SUD.** A large flowered anemone, representing a break in dahlia types. Very striking. A single row of dark red petals, with the center a cluster of deep orange colored petaloids.

Root \$2.50 Plant \$1.00

DADDY KEMP I. D. (Kemp) Spectacular because of its extreme size and rich purplish color. Prune the plant to four canes for strong stems.

Root .75



CORLLINA

***DARCY SAINSBURY** F. D. Another of the fine additions to the white class. This Australian variety has size and formation to make it a contender in any show. We recommend it.

Plant \$1.50

DAVID COPPERFIELD I. D. (Salem) Another one with plenty of size and depth. The color is a violet purple. A consistent winner the past season.

Root \$5.00 Plant \$2.50

DEAN ANDERSON I. D. (Mad River) A really great dahlia of large size and good depth with excellent habits of growth. The color is an uncommon radiant henna-orange.

Plant \$2.50

***DOKOUPIL'S GIANT** F. D. A consistent winner in the largest formal decorative classes in this section. The flowers are large and well formed. A distinctive soft lilac rose-color.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***DORIS COOPER** St. C. A long stemmed, good keeping lavender of medium size.

Plant .50

DOT FARLEY I. D. (Vernon) A large flower on a good bush. Excellent stems. Peach pink and golden yellow.

Plant .50

DREAM GIRL I. D. (Lee) Fairly large blooms of a pleasing shade of salmon and coral pink, blending to pale gold at the base of petals, and each petal lightly tipped gold. Fine stem holding the flower well above the attractive bushes.

Plant \$2.50

***DULCENIA** St. C. (Bruidegom) A sensation in the garden and show room the past season. Extremely profuse bloomer. Flowers are an attractive cardinal red, well formed flowers which are also true to type. Bound to be popular.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

EAGLE ROCK FANTASY I. D. (Broomall) A beautiful big lavender that is outstanding in the garden late in the season. A big winner.

Root \$.75 Plant .50

EDITH A. LEHMAN I. D. (Kemp) A wonderful color of bright old rose overlaid with a silvery sheen. Large flowers on long stems.

Root \$2.50 Plant 1.00

EDNA FERBER S. C. (Fisher & Masson) The popularity of this fine dahlia continues. Good sized flowers of great character. The color is a glistening coral shading to old gold at the base of the petals.

Root .75

ELISSA LANDI I. D. (Cordes) A brightly colored flower of golden coral. Very pleasing form.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

FIREBALL F. D. (Bissell) A real sensation, in our gardens, with the many visitors. Brilliant scarlet that demands instant attention. The flowers are of moderate size, stems and formation are good and the plant has heavy rugged foliage.

Root \$5.00 Plant \$2.50

FIREMAN I. D. (Success) A flashy cardinal red of fair size. Tall bushes. Good root maker.

Root .75

FOREST FIRE I. D. (Dahliadel) The name aptly describes the coloring, which is a lemon yellow at the base of the petals and rich scarlet towards the outer half. Good, compact bushes.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

FRANK SERPRA I. D. (Serpra) Very large with a dainty color, uncommon in so large a flower. Stems are long and strong. The color is a delicate pink with lavender suffusions throughout.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***FRANZ BERGER** S. C. This fine dahlia from abroad, comes close to being an ideal dahlia in every respect. Very early, free bloomer. Stems long, holding the medium sized flowers facing. Fine for exhibition or cutting. Coral red.

Root \$.75

***FRAU IDA MANSFIELD** In. C. A very attractive pale lemon yellow, that is always a favorite in our gardens. The flower is very deep and of large size for this type. The tips of the petals are cleft giving the flower added character and the appearance of being more numerous than they actually are.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50



DULCINEA

***FRAU O. BRACHT S. C.** This dahlia should be in every garden. We consider it one of the ten best varieties on the market. The color is a clear light primrose yellow. Fine for exhibition or cutting, and can not be recommended too highly.

Root \$.75 Plant .50

***GARTENDIRECTOR BARTON S. C.** Well formed flowers of light rose, tipped white.

Plant \$.50

GEORGE WASHINGTON I. D. (Shurtleff) Deep rose with some petals tipped white and some white suffused throughout. Well grown blooms will attain eleven inches in diameter.

Root \$2.50 Plant \$1.00

GIRL OF HILLCREST I. D. (Scott) A brilliant Mikado orange of good size that blooms early and profusely.

Root \$.50

***GOLDEN MONARCH I. D.** Large massive blooms of deep gold with bronze suffusions.

Plant \$.75

GOLDEN STANDARD In. C. to St. C. (Downs) A fine exhibition dahlia of distinctive coloring. Golden tan with amber and bronze shadings. In most of the shows of the past season, that we have checked, it won more first prizes than any other variety.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

GOLDEN SWEEPSTAKES I. D. (Lee) A very pleasing, free blooming, golden buff tinted apricot, at the center. Long excellent stem. Flowers are quite large and very deep.

Root \$2.00 Plant .75

GREATER GLORY In. C. (Salem) A very large rose pink, shading lighter; of excellent formation and character. Growth, stem, and foliage are all highly satisfactory. All our blooms the past season were incurved in type but we understand it sometimes comes as a semi cactus. In either case it would be very beautiful.

Root \$10.00 Plant \$5.00

***GRETEL S. C.** A remarkable free blooming sort that is excellent for basket work. Blooms are of medium size or slightly less. The color is a bright henna orange.

Root \$.75

HILLCREST MANDERIN I. D. (Scott) Large blooms of striking color. Oriental scarlet, flushed golden yellow.

Root \$.75



GREATER GLORY

HILLCREST NUGGET I. D. (Scott) Deep flowers of apricot yellow, with reddish suffusion on the reverse.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

HI-LITE I. D. (Lee) Large velvety carmine, lightly tipped with gold. Reverse of petals are silver. Graceful formation and the stems are strong.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

HONOR BRIGHT F. D. (Peck) A good commercial type dahlia. Amber with rose coral shadings and tints.

Root \$.75

***HOSIANNA** In C. or S. C. One of the most delicately beautiful dahlias in our gardens. Medium sized flowers of rose pink, shading to a cream center. Flowers on top of long strong stems. Bushes are free branching.

Root \$.75

H. R. S. I. D. (Seal) Large massive blooms that immediately arrest the attention of visitors. The color is a clear, deep, golden yellow with no other tints. The long petals twist and wave in a most enchanting manner.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

HUNT'S VELVET WONDER I. D. (Hunt) One of the big ones. The deep flowers have long broad petals and are of a dark, rosy magenta, shading to true purple. Strong grower.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***INSPIRATION** S. C. to St. C. A medium sized cactus of fine clear yellow. Exceptionally long strong stems. Produces an abundance of flowers after mid-season.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

JAMES KIRBY I. D. (Badetty) A bright, rich, cardinal red with darker shadings. Good keeper when cut. Tall grower.

Root \$.75

JANE COWL I. D. (Downs) The standard of comparison for all dahlias. Universally grown and popular as a florist's flower. Large blooms of buff, gold and salmon.

Root .50

***JEAN TRIMBEE** S. C. (Trimbee) Large flowers of petunia violet. Excellent in every respect. Early and profuse bloomer.

Root .50

JEROME KERN I. D. (Viele and Mendham) Fair sized flowers of graceful formation. Very popular with our visitors. The petals recurve to the stems. Shrimp pink with gold tints.

Root .75



INSPIRATION

JERSEY'S BEAUTY F. D. (Waite) The most widely grown of all dahlias and is generally considered the finest florist flower on the market. Also a consistent winner at all shows. Eosine pink.

Root .50

JERSEY'S DAINTY S. C. (Waite) A fine exhibition, white semi-cactus, which is also becoming very popular with florists. Fine, long stems carry the flower well above the bushes. Profuse bloomer. Medium size.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

JERSEY'S MELODY S. C. (Waite) A popular garden variety because of its attractive coloring of Tyrian rose, tipped silver and with silver reverse. Early prolific bloomer.

Root .50

JERSEY'S WHITE BEAUTY F. D. (Waite) A good cut flower type which resembles the famous Jersey's Beauty to some extent. Bushes are not as open and tall, being more attractive. Flowers are of medium size and keep well when cut.
Root \$.250 Plant 1.00

JOSEPHINE G. S. C. (Rushmohr) One of the most consistent dahlias that we have grown. Medium sized blooms. The flowers are well formed, of a pleasing shade of rose pink lightly tipped yellow.
Root .50

JUDGE SAMUEL SEABURY I. D. (Etherington) A large deep flower of a delicate blend of pink and white.
Plant .75

***KARDINAL VON RUSSUM** S. C. A large, deep violet purple flower darkening towards the center. Excellent formation, good stems and free blooming.
Plant \$1.50

KARL BONAWITZ S. C. (Dahliadel) Brilliant, velvety carmine on long stems, topping a perfect bush. Very desirable.
Root .75

KATHLEEN NORRIS I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Has held its popularity as an exhibition flower since its introduction. Large flowers of great depth. Rose pink, deepening to mallow pink.
Root .50

KAY FRANCIS S. C. (Eastman-Cordes) A very large deep semi-cactus of soft lemon yellow. Produces a great abundance of blooms. Excellent habits of growth.
Root \$1.00 Plant .50

KEMP'S PURPLE WONDER I. D. (Kemp) A tall grower with excellent qualities. The large pansy purple flowers are carried nicely on long, strong stems.
Root \$1.00 Plant .50

KEMP'S VIOLET WONDER I. D. (Kemp) A very deep flower of good size. The color is a deep violet.
Root .50

KENTUCKY SUN F. D. (White) A big clear yellow with a fine future. We believe that it will be the one to beat in the yellow formal classes as well as a powerful contender in the formal class.
Root \$2.50 Plant 1.25

***KISMETH** S. C. A deep blood red held high on long, strong stems. Robust bush of wide spreading habits. Medium sized flower which keeps well when cut.
Root .50

***LAETARE** S. C. A medium sized flower of good depth. Very striking. The color is bright orange-red heavily tipped gold.
Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***LEIDEN'S ELEGANCE** S. C. A free blooming variety with the flowers well above the bushes. The color is an unusual scarlet terra cotta. The well formed flowers are suitable for exhibition.
Plant .75

***LEIDEN'S ORANGE** I. D. Vivid orange scarlet of fair size. One of the best in that shade.
Plant \$1.00

LE JOY I. D. (Lee) Well formed flowers of deep bluish orchid, with occasional petals tipped white. Its free blooming trait makes it desirable in the garden.
Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

LELAND STANFORD I. D. (Ballay) A very large cardinal red. Bushes are extremely insect resistant.

Root \$7.50 Plant 3.75

***LILAC GLORY** In. C. Soft violet with silver shadings. Very early to bloom. Good keeper when cut.

Root .75

LORD OF AUTMN I. D. (Almy) A highly consistent winner in the strongest classes at all shows. It has won more than its share of "largest bloom" awards. The very large, deep flowers are of clear, bright yellow.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

LOUISE BATES S. C. (Cordes-Eastman) A spectacular dahlia of large size. Early and prolific bloomer. Mallow pink with phlox purple center.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

MABEL GARRISON S. C. A medium sized dahlia of striking color; deep golden orange streaked red.

Root .75

***MAD. GEO. PEZZANT** In. C. One of the best exhibition sorts in its class. Fair sized flowers of rich deep blood red. Exceptionally fine formation. Recommended.

Plant \$1.00

***MADAM FLORENT BREAM** In. C. A large, bright rose cactus with a distinct yellow center.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

MAN O' WAR I. D. (Rushmohr) One of the most pleasing "reds" in the garden because of its good habits of growth, fine stem and numerous large flowers. The color is a rich dark carmine.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***MARGA V. ETZDORF** S. C. Medium sized blooms of reddish orange, shading lighter toward the center.

Plant .75



MARGRACE

MARGRACE I. D. (Bissell) A large, graceful flower of brilliant scarlet, tipped gold. Fully deserves the high rating it enjoys. Won wherever shown the past season. It is a good performer in the garden, too. Stems are excellent.

Root \$2.50 Plant 1.25

MARY RETZER S. C. (Retzer) A pink sport of Edna Ferber with, perhaps, a little more size. Bright rose pink flowers of very pleasing formation.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

MIDWEST In. C. (Robens) A large well formed violet purple cactus with all good habits. A winner on the show tables.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

MILTON J. CROSS I. D. (Johnson) A standout in our gardens the past season. Tall bushes holding the large massive blooms high above the bush

on very long slender stems. Always a contender for "Largest bloom in show" honors.

The color is a clear gold at the center shading to a peach apricot at the outer third of the petals.

Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

***MISS BELGIUM** St. C. Not a large flower but very desirable because of its free blooming habits and excellent keeping qualities. Bright reddish orange of one tone.
Root .75

MISS ELSIE JANE S. C. (Maytrott) A real gem for beauty. Not large but very deep for the diameter and a wonderful formation. The color is most attractive, shrimp pink with cream shadings at center and tipped violet rose. Fine long stems. Excellent keeper. Highly desirable for basket work.
Root \$1.50 Plant .75

MISS GLORY S. C. (Ballay) A fine deep yellow exhibition semi-cactus, which has a fine record as a winner. Large blooms on good stems.
Plant \$1.50

MISS OAKLAND F. D. (Hook) A very satisfactory white in the formal class. Blooms profusely, stems are good, and the flowers are slightly under large size.
Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

MISS OHIO In. C. (Parenica) One of our best cactus of American origin. Excellent for exhibition and cutting. The flowers are of artistic formation, stems are long, and the bushes seem resistant to insect attacks. The color is a lively lilac rose in the early season, and rose later.
Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

***MITTENWALD** S. C. Medium sized, well formed flowers of cardinal red. Desirable for basket work.
Root \$1.50 Plant .50

MRS. BRUCE COLLINS St. C. (Groll) One of the largest of its type. Light canary yellow. Blooms are borne nicely on fine stems.
Root .75

MRS. GEO. LE BOUTILLIER (Rushmohr) One of the few good exhibition "reds." Large flowers on long stems. Deep crimson red.
Root \$1.50 Plant .50

MRS. RUFUS DAWES I. D. (Roberts) Large attractive flowers, borne well above the bush on long stems. The colors are mixed autumn shades with lavender suffusions.
Plant \$1.50

***MUENCHAUSEN** F. D. A striking bi-color of salmon red largely tipped white. Very free bloomer. Stems are long and strong, holding the flowers at a nice angle.
Root .50

MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE I. D. (Reed) Very large, deep flowers of dark red with crimson shadings. A frequent winner at the best shows.
Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***NOCTURNO** In. C. A fine exhibition variety of very dark red. Nicely formed flowers on good stems.
Plant .50

OLYMPIC SUNSET S. C. (Lee) A free blooming variety of a pleasing blend of coral, orange and lemon yellow.
Root .75

OMAR KHAYYAM F. D. (Stout) Chinese red at the base of the petals, shading to orange toward the outer half of petals. Very vigorous.
Root .50

ORANGE LADY F. D. Very large orange blooms with peach shadings throughout. Bushes are very strong growers.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

O. S. U. I. (Buell) Capable of producing some very fine blooms. Stems are good and the color unusual. Scarlet with gray-tan reverse, which shows on the face of the bloom. Admired for its beauty.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

PALO ALTO S. C. (Ballay) A real top-notch. Large flowers of soft apricot buff, carried high above the strong growing bushes.

Root .75

***PAUL PFITZER S. C.** A beautiful German variety that has made a host of friends in this country. Centers are sulphur yellow, shading to a lilac rose at the tips.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***PETUNIA In. C.** A very fine lavender of good size and attractive formation. Value as exhibition variety is established.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

***PHANTOM I. D.** One of the leading bi-color dahlias for exhibition. Violet purple tipped white.

Plant .50

***PINK DAILY MAIL I. D.** Large blooms of cyclemen pink. A sport of the popular English "Daily Mail."

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***PINK SPIRAL In. C.** One of the finest of this type. Large blooms of peach blossom pink. A very fine exhibition variety that has already established many friends among show room followers.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50



A CORNER OF OUR SHOW GARDEN TAKEN IN THE FALL OF 1936 AT OUR FORMER NORTH OLMSTED FARM. DAUGHTER, BETTY JANE, STANDING BEHIND PLANTS OF "FRANK SERPRA".

PIONEER CITY BONFIRE I. D. (Buell) For three years this has been outstanding in our gardens. Large, massive blooms of highest quality. Exceedingly abundant in production of bloom. Color described as bonfire red, shaded tan.

Root \$2.50 Plant 1.25

***POSIE MORAVY** I. D. This is a real gem of beauty. Excellent in all respects. Very early and prolific and the blooms keep well when cut. The color is white with pink and orchid tints. The edges of the petals are slightly ruffled, giving the flower unusual character.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***PRACHKERL** S. C. Clear primrose yellow. Large blooms, which will be factors in many shows the coming year.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***PRES. FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT** I. D. (Andrews) A massive flower of striking color and growth. Bright carmine red with yellow reverse. Very popular.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

PRIDE OF AMERICA S. C. (Nuneveller) A well-formed, deep flower of primrose yellow with faint tints of flush pink. Tall bushes.

Root \$2.50 Plant 1.00

PRINCE OF PERSIA I. D. (Newsome) A large, glowing, bright red, very prominent in the garden after mid-season.

Root .50

PURE WHITE F. D. to I. D. (Chemar) A large, deep, well formed bloom on robust bushes. With us the large flowers were too heavy for the stems and inclined to droop.

Root \$2.50 Plant .75

PURPLE MIST F. D. (Emmons) A large, well formed purple that starts blooming early and blooms profusely. Very fine exhibition variety.

Plant \$2.50

QUEEN CITY F. D. (Peck) A very striking commercial type of excellent habits. Produces an abundance of fine, medium sized flowers. Petals fold back to the stem forming a ball shaped flower of cherry rose, shaded lighter toward the tips of the petals.

Root \$2.50 Plant 1.00

R. A. BLOOMFIELD I. D. (Petrie) A fair sized flower of great depth. The color is saffron orange, suffused rose. Always covered with flowers.

Root .75

RAJAH I. D. An unusual coloring of tan heavily streaked red.

Plant .50

***RED FAVORITE** S. C. A brilliant red on long stems. Good formation. Excellent for exhibition and cutting.

Plant \$1.50

RED JUG In. C. to S. C. (Preas) Brilliant crimson carmine of large size. A popular garden and exhibition variety, among growers of the newest and best.

Plant \$1.50

***REILE** S. C. Salmon with cream centers. Attractively formed flowers highly suitable for baskets and decorative work.

Plant .75

***REMARKABLE** I. D. A long-stemmed flower of fair size. The long, twisted petals are red, largely tipped white.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***RENAUTE MUELLER** In. C. A very fine exhibition or commercial cactus of good size. Light salmon rose with pale yellow centers. Very profuse.

Root .75



ROBERT L. RIPLEY

ROBERT L. RIPLEY I. D. (Salem) The largest dahlia in our garden last season. Under similar conditions it surpassed all the other "giants" in both diameter and depth. The plant growth is robust and the foliage is very resistant to insects. The color is a deep, rosy mauve. It is also a good root maker. Winner of many prizes at shows the past season.

Root \$10.00 Plant \$5.00

ROBERT EMMET I. D. (Maytrott) A nice, large showy dahlia in the garden. Also a good exhibition variety. Color is a bright, velvety cardinal red.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

ROCKLEY MOON F. D. (Taylor) A very pleasing variety in the garden. A good strong grower producing many fine blooms of fairly large size. The color is bright yellow with tints of bronze toward the center.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

***ROSTRAHL** In. C. Very finely rolled petals of bright salmon red, shading yellow toward the base.

Root .50

ROYAL PURCHASE In. C. (Salem) One of the largest of this type. Early and very profuse. The flowers are yellow with outer petals suffused pink. The stems are exceptional.

Root \$5.00 Plant 2.00

RUDDY VALLEE S. C. (Broomall) Large, spectacular blooms of reddish apricot with gold centers.

Root .50

RUDOLPH'S GIANT I. D. (Rudolph) A giant in fact. Winner are largest bloom at New York show in 1936. The large blooms have great depth and the stems are all that could be desired. The color is a live buff with apricot and pink suffusions.

Plant \$2.50

RUDYARD KIPLING I. D. (Salem) Here we have the uncommon combination of size and beauty as well as early and profuse blooming habits. A vase of these, in a shadow box, in our display at Cleveland attracted many favorable comments. The color is deep rose with shadings of ashes of rose.

Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

***R. W. TREASDER** F. D. A large flower of reddish amber, on long strong stems. Bushes tall and vigorous.

Plant .75

***SAARLAND'S HEIMKEHR** St. C. An attractive free blooming cactus of lively rose pink shading to yellow at the centers.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

SATAN S. C. (Ballay) One of the leaders in the strong semi-cactus class, at all shows. Very large scarlet blooms with a touch of gold at tips of petals. Tall rugged bushes. Good root producer.

Root \$.75 Plant .50

***SCARLET ELEGANCE St. C.** Fiery red of good substance. Excellent as a cut-flower or for exhibition.

Plant \$1.50

***SEVERIN'S TRIUMPH F. D.** Clear, bright, true pink of modest size. Its fine form makes it a desirable variety for exhibition purposes, and it is also a fine cut-flower variety.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

SHEKINAH S. C. (Redfern) A large, clean-cut flower of delicate shell pink. Very much admired in our gardens.

Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50



SON OF SATAN

SON OF SATAN In. C. (Slocum) One of the largest and brightest of its type. Intense flame red on excellent stems. Blooms up to twelve inches in diameter. A sensation in any garden and a winner in any show.

Root \$5.00 Plant 2.50

SONNY BOY I. D. (Salem) A large massive flower of beautiful old rose overlaid with a golden sheen. Always popular with our visitors.

Root .75

SPOTLIGHT I. D. (Hulin) A large sulphur yellow, with excellent habits of growth. Early and free bloomer.

Root .50

***TANNENBERG F. D.** A medium sized formal with rather pointed petals. A flashy flower of blood red with distinct golden tips and gold at the centers. Without exception, this was the best liked of the moderate priced dahlias in our gardens.

Root \$1.50 Plant .75

***THE DUCHESS I. D.** A pleasing combination of color in a bloom of good quality. Bright, clear yellow, largely tipped white.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

THOMAS A. EDISON F. D. (Dahliadel) Still the best in its class. A big, well-formed flower of royal purple.

Root .50

TOM MANNING I. D. (Wind) A good, honest dahlia that performed well under all conditions the past season. Very vigorous, wide spreading plants. The color is definitely in the autumn shade; center of bloom is old rose, outer three-fourths are ochraceous salmon blending to buff. Blooms are large, on perfect stems.

Root \$2.50 Plant .75

VIN-WELL PRINCESS F. D. (Blamer) A large, deep flower of lavender pink to rose pink. Tall sturdy plants.

Root \$5.00 Plant \$2.50

VOLCANO I. D. (Richardson) A large, well formed orange-flame red, that made a big hit wherever it was shown the past season.

Plant 3.50

WASHINGTON GIANT I. D. (Lee) A real lavender of large size. The flowers are nicely streaked with silver and are borne in profusion on free branching bushes.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

WENOKA F. D. (Hulin) One of the largest and most massive formal that it has been our pleasure to grow. Rosy mauve with magenta shadings. Stems are very long and strong, carrying the flowers well above the rugged bushes. Fine for exhibition.

Root \$1.50 Plant .50

***WHITE ABUNDANCE** F. D. (Ballego) This comes close to being the best white "commercial" for all-around performance. Tall bushes are always full of perfectly formed flowers. Medium size. Good keeper.

Root \$1.00 Plant .50

THE BARGAIN COUNTER

25 cents each; twelve for \$2.50

The following varieties are some, which it is our intention not to grow next season. Each year we must discontinue a number of varieties to make room for newer ones. We are offering these at this low price, for those who would like a few more varieties to fill out their gardens at a minimum of cost. All are from good healthy stock and should add many fine flowers to your garden. In some cases, only a few roots are available. We suggest you indicate a second choice in case your first choice is sold out. We do not substitute unless requested to do so. Select any twelve for \$2.50.

ALICE MARIE GALVIN F. D. White with pink shadings, Early, free bloomer.

AMY BARTLEY I. D. Large pale yellow. Long stems.

BETTER TIMES In C. Lilac pink with yellow centers.

CADET S. C. Large, light yellow.

DORTHY STONE I. D. Rose pink.

EMILY DUNCAN S. C. Lavender rose shaded silver.

FAY BEATON I. D. Free blooming creamy white.

GOLDEN GOBLIN F. D. Deep golden ochre flowers.

HARRIET HOCTOR I. D. Early and free. Reddish purple of large size.

JAMES JANNING F. D. Light rose shaded white.

JERSEY'S BEACON F. D. Chinese scarlet.

LADY PONSONBY I. D. Deep yellow.

MONMOUTH SUNBURST I. D. Extremely free blooming, autumn shades.

ORANGE MOON F. D. Dark orange.

ORINDA F. D. Large mauve flowers on tall bushes.

ORIENTAL SPLENDOR F. D. Ruby red with yellow reverse.

ROYAL WHITE F. D. Long stemmed white. Medium size. Good form.

SACRED FIRE I. D. Cherry red.

WM. H. HOGAN F. D. Garnet red tipped white.

How To Handle Cut Flowers So They Will Keep

The life of dahlia blooms after they are cut may be very much prolonged by a few simple precautions taken at the time of cutting.

First of all, cut only FULLY MATURED blooms. Flowers with a withered petal or two on the back will keep longer, under similar conditions, than young blooms. If desired, the withered petals may be picked, or cut off. Cut a longer stem than will be necessary in the vase or container for which the flowers are wanted.

Cut the flowers early in the morning before they start to wilt, or late in the eve-

ning after they have revived from the effects of the sun and winds of the day. Make the cut with a sharp knife so that the microscopic tubes in the stem, which supply water to the flower head, are not crushed.

Flowers should be cut at least eight hours before it is planned to use them. As soon after cutting as possible, the stems should be placed in deep cool water in a cool, draughtless and dark part of the basement, for the period of eight hours or more. When putting the flowers in water in the basement, it is to considerable advantage, to trim off an inch or two of the stem under water. This cuts off the portion of the stem into which air may have entered the microscopic tubes and choked off the supply of water passing up to the flower head. When the supply of water fails, of course the flowers wilt.

After the period of "hardening" or "finishing" in the basement the flowers may be used for their intended purpose. In placing them in their permanent containers it is well to again trim off a small portion of the stem under water. In fact, this should be done each time the stem is out of water for more than a moment. Use only CLEAN water and CLEAN containers; factors which are important but often overlooked. Thereafter change the water once a day and trim off the stems. Set the containers out of direct sunlight and draughts. Follow the foregoing suggestions and you will find the dahlia a long lasting flower.

SMALL TYPE DAHLIAS

These small flowered dahlias have become very popular because of their general usefulness. They lend themselves nicely to effects in the landscaped gardens. As a flower for arrangements, they are ideal, keeping a long time, and their great diversity of form permits unlimited possibilities in their arrangements.

Abbreviations: P, pom; M. D., miniature decorative; Mig., mignon; M. C., miniature cactus or semi-cactus B, ball; St., star; S., single; Coll., collarette; Dup., duplex. Prices are for roots, except where noted.

*BABY ROYAL. M. C. Salmon pink shaded apricot at base of the petals.	
A real gem	\$.50
*BISHOP OF LLANSDAF. M. Dup. Bright scarlet, with fine bronze foliage...	.50
*BLACK DIAMOND. B. Very dark maroon.....	.50
BOB WHITE. P. Fine exhibition white.....	.50
BRIGHT FLASH. S. Our 1937 introduction. A bright red for the exhibition table. Long, stiff stems. Flowers average five inches in diameter.....	.50
CHICKIE. P. Reddish plum color.....	.35
DAINTY MISS. P. Well named. Light pink and white.....	.35
DEE DEE. P. Best exhibition lavender.....	.35
DOT. P. An all-purpose white.....	.35
*EASTER GREETINGS. M. C. White.....Plants	.50
EDWARD. P. Cherry red.....	.25
ELIAZBETH. P. Yellow, deeply edged red.....	.25
*EVCHEN. P. A small perfectly quilled pom. Petals gold with red reverse, giving two tone effect. Oddly different.....Plants	.50
EVEREST. St. Very fine pure white.....	.50
FAIRY. M. D. A dandy miniature Jersey's Beauty.....	.75
FIXLER'S COLLARETTE. Coll. Excellent red and orange.....	.75
GEORGE IRELAND. P. Lilac mauve.....	.25
GERTRUDE. P. Glowing carmine.....	.35
GLOW. P. A very attractive coral.....	.35
*GOLDENSE. M. D. Old gold.....	.75
GOLD MEDAL. B. Bright autumn shades.....	.50
*HELCA. P. A good all-purpose white.....	1.00
HELEN ANITA. P. Lavender pink with white center.....	.35

HONEY. P. A fine pale yellow, lightly tipped red.....	.35
JANE HOBBY. M. D. A showy bright scarlet.....	.75
JIMMY. P. Another of our recent introductions. Free, early bloomer of an uncommon cerise color.....	.50
JERSEY'S BEACON BALL. M. D. A fine deep flower of orange-scarlet.....	.50
JOE FETTE. P. White.....	.25
JOHNNY PEPPIN. P. Dark red.....	.35
LITTLE DAVID. P. Very good reddish orange.....	.35
*LITTLE DREAM. M. C. Rose pink with white center.....	.50
LITTLE EDITH. P. The leading exhibition variety. Very small. Yellow tipped carmine35
LITTLE JEWELL. M. D. Very popular amaranth pink.....	.35
LITTLE JOHNNY. P. Small dark red.....	.50
LITTLE NEMO. M. D. Striking bright red tipped white.....Plants	.50
LITTLE OTHELLO. S. Very dark maroon with deep bronze foliage.....	.50
LITTLE PEARL. A free blooming pink.....	.35
LITTLE SNOW QUEEN. M. C. White.....	.50
*MAGDA. P. Perfectly formed flowers of brilliant red. Very long stems. Tall, open bushes. A fine cut-flower type pom.....Plants	.50
MARY HELEN. B. The leading exhibition ball. Yellow.....	.50
MINNIE MOUSE. P. Burgundy red tipped white.....	.50
*MOLLY. M. D. Violet purple.....	1.00
*MURILLO. S. Lavender pink75
ORCHID BALL. B. Perfectly formed lavender ball. Late.....	.50
ORCHID LADY. M. F. D. Exceptionally fine formed. Orchid pink....Plants	.50
SANHICAN'S SWEETHEART. M. D. Ochreous buff, suffused rose.....	.50
*SATURN. M. D. Bright rose pink.....	.75
*SNOWDROP. M. C. White. Free blooming.....	.50
TANGO CENTURY. S. Autumn shades25
*TAUNERSPERLE. M. D. Old gold.....	.75
YELLOW GEM. P. A fine exhibition and ail-purpose yellow.....	.35



SHOWING PART OF OUR DAHLIA FIELDS JUST COMING INTO BLOOM DURING
THE FALL OF 1936.

Dahlia

Green Plants

Dahlia "green plants" or simply "plants" as we refer to them in this book are little dahlia plants (see illustration on this page) grown from cuttings. The cuttings are taken from selected clumps which are started into growth in the greenhouses during the late winter months. As soon as the sprouts are long enough to handle, they are taken off and placed in a special rooting medium. When the cuttings are rooted they are potted into three inch pots in a soil selected, or prepared, to hold together in shipment.



DAHLIA GREEN PLANTS

After potting our plants are carefully grown and constantly watched to insure plants of highest quality. At just the right time they are moved from the greenhouses into cold frames for the extremely important and exacting "hardening" process.

Our plants are shipped to all parts of the country in paper shipping pots, carefully packed to insure safe arrival. Planting directions are sent with each shipment. (See also the paragraph on plants under "CULTURAL HINTS" in the back of this book.)

Properly grown plants produce flowers as early as flowers are produced from roots. As a rule the flowers from plants are superior. Growth, and total productivity of bloom, is equal to bushes grown from roots. Under conditions less than favorable plants may produce clumps of roots which are not as heavy as the clumps from roots, but, properly grown they may easily produce clumps equal to those from roots. Plants are sold cheaper, not because of any difference in their worth, but because by use of careful propagation methods we are able to produce several plants from one root.

Our entire life to date has been spent as a grower of plants of all kinds, and this, supplemented by a technical education involving this subject, qualifies us to grow plants which are unsurpassed in the industry. The many highly appreciated letters which we receive each year bear out this contention. A rapidly expanding dahlia business has been largely founded on the superior quality of our plants. Regardless of your previous experience with plants, we strongly recommend that you give some of our plants a trial.

Cultural Hints

Although dahlias may be grown, in almost any ordinary garden soil, to produce a beautiful effect in massed color, with but little attention, they respond very readily to a little extra care.

Fine dahlias are the result of a number of factors, most important of which are: (1) good vigorous disease-free stock; (2) choice of varieties which naturally produce high quality blooms; (3) location of the garden; (4) proper planting; (5) cultivation; (6) intelligent fertilization and spraying; (7) pruning and dis-budding; and (8) the successful winter storage of the clumps.

Factors (1) and (2) need no comment other than the varieties which we offer in this catalogue are the result of several years of careful selection from the finest novelties placed on the market from all parts of the world. Each year we try many new sorts, then discard those which have no definite place in the better class gardens, and offer only the best to our customers. Our fields are carefully and frequently inspected. All inferior plants and those showing any symptoms of disease are destroyed. Our cultural methods are productive of the very finest quality roots and plants obtainable.

Selection of the location for the garden is usually quite restricted, but fortunately dahlias will do well in any type of soil and in a wide variety of climate. A good site is one that receives several hours of sunlight each day and has good drainage, so that water does not stand on the ground very long after rains. More important than the type of soil or the location of the garden is the condition of the soil at planting time, and during the growing season. We believe that more failures with dahlias are due to the lack of proper conditioning of the soil than to any other single factor. This is especially regrettable since it is a factor which may be easily controlled.

The soil of the garden should be kept loose while the plants are growing, especially in the early part of the season. Light sandy soils need the least preparation, providing they contain enough humus to hold a sufficient amount of moisture. Humus may be supplied by, planting a cover crop of rye in the fall to spade under in the spring, peat moss mixed into the soil, barnyard manures, and by vegetative refuse such as lawn grass clippings, leaves, etc.

Heavy clay soils may be made lighter by the generous use of furnace ashes or cinders mixed with the soil of the garden, or just in the hills. Lime also tends to loosen the soil but should not be used oftener than every four or five years and never in connection with barnyard manures. A cover crop of rye also aids in the loosening or lightening of the soil. Stirring the soil frequently to a depth of five or six inches helps to maintain the soil in proper condition. It must be remembered that the tender roots of the dahlia will not reach out as readily in search of food, in hard ground, as they will in looser soil. The dahlia is a very heavy "feeder" and needs a large efficient root system. Also, air and water penetrate more easily into loose soil to aid in the chemical transformation of soil elements into plant food.

Spade the garden two or three weeks before planting time. Leave the surface rough until actual setting of the roots or plants. Never try to "fit" the soil when it is so wet that it sticks to the tools. Planting should not be started until the soil has started to warm up in the spring, which in the latitude of northern Ohio is about May 15th to May 20th. Planting may be continued until June 15th or later.

We suggest planting in furrows or trenches about five inches deep running the length of the row. Place the root flat in the bottom of the trench and cover with two or three inches of soil. Fill in the rest of the trench as the plant grows. Rows should be at least three, or preferably, four feet apart. Plants in the row should be thirty-six inches apart when planting large sorts. (Small type dahlias sixteen to twenty-four inches apart.) Stakes to support the plants later may be driven at planting time five or six inches from the eye or sprout. Further instructions for the care and planting of "GREEN PLANTS" are enclosed with each shipment of our plants.

Many failures with "GREEN PLANTS" are due to improper cultural methods at the start of the growing season. Normal growth should be the aim. It is not uncommon for the gardener to employ all methods within his knowledge to get his plants off to a fast start. A fast growth is also a soft growth which is easily injured by the heat and dry weather of mid-summer. Such injuries result in a check to the plant and a resultant hardening of the plant tissues. When the tissues become hard, or woody, they lose their properties to expand, or grow. Thereafter, no greater amounts of plant food can pass up through the stalk than was the case when the hardening took place. Growth practically ceases. When this has occurred, first class results can be obtained only by cutting the plant back to the ground and starting all over. In many cases this will be too late to obtain blooms.

Hardening may also be caused by a number of other factors. In some cases the condition may have been induced by planting too early when the soil is too cold for normal growth. Some other factors which may cause this condition are: setting plants in the garden which have not been properly "hardened off" in cold frames, allowing the plants to dry out, excessive water, lack of cultivation, root injuries due to insects or fertilizers, as well as a number of others not so common. When growth has been normal the plant can cope with conditions which would cause a soft plant to suffer a check.

Cultivate once or twice each week to a depth of five or six inches in the early part of the season. Right next to the plant cultivation should not be as deep or some of the roots are likely to be cut off or injured. When the plants are in bloom and the spaces between the plants are pretty well filled with foliage no further cultivation will be necessary.

Water only in very dry weather. One thorough soaking is far better than several light sprinklings. Frequent watering brings the roots too near the surface where they are quickly injured by heat or draught. More water will be required after the plants start blooming than earlier in the season.

There are a number of elements in the soil which are needed for proper plant growth. Of these elements there are only three which are likely to be present in lesser amounts than needed by the plant. They are NITROGEN, PHOSPHORUS, and POTASH. In order to arrive at an intelligent fertilizer program we must understand the purpose of the above elements to the plant.

NITROGEN is needed for bush growth, dark green foliage, and large flowers. Plants growing in soil which is lacking in nitrogen show a yellowish cast to the leaves, low growth, failure to develop buds properly, and small flowers of poor color. Too much of this element produces a tall growth, soft plants, delays blooming, weakens stems, and reduces the keeping qualities of the roots in winter storage. It will injure leaves and roots if applied directly, or too close, to them. The common sources of nitrogen are cover crops, dried blood, fish scraps, barnyard manures and commercial fertilizers.

PHOSPHORUS is the most important from the dahlia grower's standpoint. It is essential in all plant functions. It hastens blooming, increases root development, stiffens the stems, increases the general vitality of the plant, and it overcomes the harmful effects of excessive nitrogen as well as certain other adverse soil conditions. Phosphorus is not harmful even when applied in excessive quantities. The common sources are: superphosphate, double superphosphate, and bone meal. The latter also contains a small amount of nitrogen.

POTASH increases the general vigor of the plant, it is essential in the chemical changes occurring in the plant, and root formation is dependent upon its presence. The common sources are: muriate of potash, and sulphate of potash. Hardwood ashes are sometimes used as a source of potash but is not to be recommended owing to its variability in potassium (potash) content.

To reduce the foregoing to a simple fertilizer program we suggest spading under an application of bone meal (steamed) at the rate of five or six pounds for each one hundred square feet in the garden. This may be done two or three weeks before planting time. The plant food element in bone meal is very slowly available and one application will last throughout the season. Potash may also be applied at this time at the rate of two or three pounds per one hundred square feet. Since bone meal also contains a small amount of nitrogen (3 to 4%) none will be required at this time. Nitrogen being a quickly available plant food it may be applied later in the season, or just when it will be of the greatest benefit.

For increased size of blooms apply nitrogen just after the buds have formed. In this simple sample program we will use dried blood. Scatter it between the rows at least a foot from the base of the plant at the rate of about two pounds for each one hundred square feet. Cultivate it into the soil and water well. This application may be repeated in three or four weeks, but no more than two applications should be given. Properly fertilized plants are less susceptible to attacks of disease and insects.

We have found that dusting sulphur (300 mesh) applied to the under sides of the leaves with a dusting gun or sprayer is an effective control for a number of insects especially leaf hoppers and red spider. In our gardens we use no other spray material. If insects are taking their toll in your garden have your local seedsman recommend a spray material for your special problem. Many insects are discouraged from attacking a plant covered with a white dust whether it is a poison or just a harmless substance such as flour. Mildew in the late fall can be absolutely prevented by one application of "dusting sulphur" applied to the under sides of the lower leaves. Use a dust gun of some sort and do the dusting early in the morning when the dew is on the leaves. About Sept. 1st is the time to make this application.

Large specimen blooms are the result of systematic dis-budding and dis-branching. After the buds appear it will be noted that they usually come in clusters of three. The one in the center is generally the strongest. Remove the other two and the effort that the plant would expend in producing flowers from them goes to the terminal bud which is left. The next two or three sets of branches (at each leaf below the terminal bud) may also be removed, further increasing the size of the bloom to be produced. Be sure, however, that at least one set of branches is left to produce the next flowers.

Many varieties have a tendency to grow straight up with but a single stalk. If a bushy plant is desired pinch out the top of the plant when it is about eighteen inches tall. Other varieties may produce too many branches in which case some may be cut out. Plants which have been pinched out may be dis-budded as per instructions above.

After the frost has destroyed the plants in the fall cut the stalk off at the ground. An ordinary saw is fine for this. If possible leave the clump in the ground for a week or ten days before digging. A long tinned fork is best for digging the clumps. Be careful not to break or even strain the necks of the tubers. One person with a fork on each side of the clump to be dug can lift the clump out with less damage. Do not leave the clumps exposed to the sun or wind for more than a few minutes. If the clumps are too moist to store at once dry them off a bit in the shade or basement. Cut the stalk off to within a couple of inches of the crown. This largely helps to prevent stem rot later. Store the clumps in containers well lined with newspaper to keep out the air as much as possible. Keep the containers in a cool frost-proof basement. After the clumps have been stored for three or four weeks examine them for stem rot or other decay. If decay has set in leave them exposed to the air for a day. Splitting the clumps in two will help prevent stem rot. Trim out any decayed parts and dust with sulphur. A little sulphur sprinkled over the clumps when they are put in the containers will prove beneficial. If the clumps show signs of shrivelling moisten them with a little water and add more covering.

The clumps may be divided at any time but it is best to wait until the eyes or sprouts show distinctly. Never plant the entire clump. For best results divide it so that there is but one sprout to each division. Usually good clumps will average four or more divisions.

We will be glad to answer any further questions regarding these or any other phases of dahlia culture. OUR SERVICE DOES NOT END WITH THE SALE.

JOIN THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF OHIO

Dues are \$1.00 a year. Meetings every second Friday of the month at Hotel Statler, Cleveland. By joining you will benefit by the dahlia discussions at meetings and by the articles in "The Ohio Bulletin." Also you will be helping a worth-while cause. Eighth annual show of the society will be at Hotel Statler on Sept. 17th and 18th. Come and bring your friends.

As a special inducement, The Rocky River Dahlia Gardens will give a fifty cent dahlia of your choice to anyone sending the dollar for membership through us. Acknowledgment will come from the secretary of the society. Take advantage of this offer at once.

ROCKY RIVER DAHLIA GARDENS

ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

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